

Sent on behalf of the Indiana State Fair Commission

News Release

For Immediate Release

State Fair Commission takes steps to distribute Remembrance Fund donations

INDIANAPOLIS (Aug. 31, 2011) – The Indiana State Fair Commission will use the services of nationally recognized victims compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg to quickly and fairly distribute the private donations made to the Indiana State Fair Remembrance Fund.

Andre Lacy, chairman of the Indiana State Fair Commission, said today that Feinberg -- who is donating his services -- will recommend protocols for eligibility and payment amounts to victims of the Aug. 13 state fair accident.

So far, donations of about \$263,000 have been made to the fund. That does not yet include about \$554,000 of concert proceeds donated by the bands Maroon 5 and Train, who performed their scheduled state fair concert offsite at Conseco Fieldhouse in the days after the accident.

“Our goal is to get the funds donated by the bands, Hoosiers and many others who have stepped up to help the accident victims and families as soon as we can in a manner consistent with rules for charitable giving. To have the foremost expert in the world help us do this right is an unexpected plus,” said Lacy.

On August 15, the Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF) created the Indiana State Fair Remembrance Fund to help victims and their families. To facilitate the distribution of funds, Governor Mitch Daniels has signed an executive order that allows the state, through a restricted fund called the State Fair Relief Fund, to accept a grant of the Remembrance Fund donations from the CICF. The sole purpose of the State Fair Relief Fund will be to receive and distribute all of the charitable donations to victims of the state fair accident.

CICF will continue to accept tax deductible donations to the State Fair Remembrance Fund. The donations will then be transferred to the State Fair Relief Fund. This procedure will enable the funds to be distributed faster.

Feinberg will help the State Fair Commission develop the framework for distribution of the charitable funds, including determining who is eligible for funds, a claims process, and the amount of the charitable disbursement. The payments from the relief fund will be considered a charitable gift and are not intended as compensation for any injury or legal rights arising from the accident.

Separately, Attorney General Greg Zoeller announced today that Feinberg will serve as a consultant to his office to develop a protocol for resolving legal claims filed against the state as a result of the accident. The Attorney General's Office has issued a news release about Feinberg's role.

Lacy also said the commission has started to respond to records requests, mostly from members of media organizations. Concurrent with responding to the requests, the commission has decided to post the responses on its newly established accident website, www.in.gov/sfc. Additional records will be posted as requests are fulfilled.

Documents posted on the site today are:

- Thornton Tomasetti contract
- Witt Associates contract
- 2011 Sugarland document file
- 2010 Sugarland contract and rider
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employee Local 30 contract
- Dave Lucas Entertainment contract
- Sugarland settlement memorandum
- Janet Jackson settlement memorandum
- Lady Antebellum settlement memorandum
- Brett Eldredge settlement memorandum
- Train settlement memorandum

The governor's executive order: <http://www.in.gov/gov/2400.htm>

Information about Feinberg and his company: www.feinbergrosen.com

Media contact:

Stephanie McFarland, Caldwell VanRiper, for the Indiana State Fair Commission

317-635-8181, smcfarland@CVRIndy.com